Production, Supply and Demand of Explosives

5507. SHRI S.B. THORAT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of production, demand and supply and import of explosives during each of the last three years State-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to formulate any programme to increase the production of explosives during the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): (a) to (c). A total capacity of 4,85,700 tonnes has been licensed for explosives in the country. The demand of explosives in the country by the end of 1990,1995 and 2000 has been estimated to be 1,88,000 tonnes, 3,32,000 tonnes and 4,12,000 tonnes respectively. The production of explosives during 1988-89, 1989-90 and 1990-91 was 1,37,044 tonnes, 1,59,145 tonnes and 1,45,529 tonnes respectively. The import of specialised explosives for use by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC) and Oil India Limited during the same period was worth Rs. 289 lakh, 184 lakh and 202 lakh respectively.

The demand of explosives varies according to requirement of mining and non-mining sectors. Licensed capacity is estimated to be sufficient to meet the demand of explosives during the 8th Five Year Plan.

State-wise figures of demand and production of explosives are not being maintained.

[*Translation*]

Coordination between Computer Networks

5508. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of coordination between the computer network of Science and Technology Department, Department of Electronics, Telecommunications Department and National Informatics Centre;

(b) whether processing and communication facility is available on all the networks in Hindi;

(c) if so, the extent to which it is being used;

(d) if not, by when such facility is likely to be provided;

(e) whether all these networks can be connected with foreign networks and whether they can exchange information with each other;

(f) if so, the details thereof ; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) The largest computer network, NICNET set up by the National Informaties Centre (NIC) with 550 Earth Stations and as many computers in District Headquarters, State Capitals, etc., has terminals located at the Department of Science & Technology, Department of Electronics and Department of Telecommunications. NICNET is a computer network primarily serving the Government and some central public sector units. The computer network of